BUT WILL YOU LOVE ME TOMORROW?
DATING {pages 16-17}

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PHOTO: KAREK CORNELL/NIGHTLIFEGAY.COM

Contest. Mr. Gay

▶ Pedro Diaz, left, took part in last year's U.S. Mr. Gay contest in Philadelphia, which was hosted by Ms. Brittany Lynn.

Double standard in beauty contest?

The national U.S. Mr. Gay contest returns this weekend to Center City. Its founder says the event breaks stereotypes, but a critic says it reinforces a "hot body" culture. {page 02}

If Occupiers must move, unions glad to help out

- Labor leader says Dilworth project ready to begin
- City reverses stance: Camp should move now {page 03}

News

Baby baby baby mama drops Bieber lawsuit

- Teen yet to take paternity test
- Mom: This isn't over {page 10}

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Ramos takes over as head of the SRC

Pedro Ramos' first day on the job as chair of the Philadelphia School Reform Commission resulted in some immediate changes, but also came with some skepticism from parents about whether it will lead to results.

Ramos was confirmed by the state Senate on Tuesday, making him the newest member of the five-person panel, which is still awaiting confirmation of another appointee Feather Houstoun by the senators.

In his first meeting, he said the SRC would work in a committee structure, establishing committees on safety and engagement; charters, turnarounds and rightsizing; finance and audit; and career, technical and higher education.

Ramos also allowed questions from the audience following staff presentations.

"Now we're back to a process where schools are getting out of hand, administrators are not having control of the schools," said parent Danita Bates. "I'm not blaming you, but it's just disheartening when we have new folks coming" and issues have to be readdressed. SOLOMON D. LEACH

▶ Ramos

Double-edged sword for Mr. Gay contest

Event's founder says it breaks old stereotypes Some think it reinforces new one National competition planned for this weekend in Center City

"Mr. Gay" founder Don Spradlin started the competition to combat pigeonholed conceptions of gay men. Ironically, some accuse the contest of perpetuating a different kind of stereotype.

"There's a lot of gay guys in the closet because they buy into what the straight press promotes as the gay stereotypes, where they'll publish a picture of a drag queen and say, 'This is what all gay people look like,'" said Spradlin. "There were long running contests for drag queens and leather gays, but not for regular guys."

But Mr. Gay is packed with contestants sporting tight six packs, large biceps and small Speedos.

"I do think that Mr. Gay is a hot body contest," said Nicholas DeRoose, Temple student and gay rights activist. "It is reinforcing narrow stereotypes of what it means to be gay, which is basically the hot body. It blocks out an entire spectrum of the community that may be more effeminate, that may not be below 6 percent body fat."

Spradlin says that, while sex appeal is necessary, there's more to the competition. "For a guy to be in this contest, he's going to be aware good looks are a big part of it, but we are successful in picking people who are charismatic, well-respected leaders," he said.

Contestants in the two-day event compete in a question and answer session, evening wear and swimwear. "We're not looking for showgirls. We wanted to find a spokesman," Spradlin said.

PHOTO: KAREN CORNELL/NIGHTLIFEGAY.COM

▶ Drag superstar Navaya Shay performed with the Philadelphia Freedom Band and University of the Arts Dancers at last year's event.

ALEX WIGGLESWORTH
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Philly has become 'gay center'

U.S. Mr. Gay is being held in Philadelphia for the second consecutive year, in part due to support it has received from the city.

"We wanted to move the contest around from city to city to get more exposure," Spradlin said. "But we were very supported by the gay community and the city itself. They even closed the Liberty Bell monument and let us in there after hours to do photos and interviews."

"Having been in San Francisco since the late '70s, I can say that Philadelphia has become a very strong, fun destination. San Francisco used to be the only gay center in America and now there are several ... including Philadelphia."

▶ Rabon

Don't call it a pageant

Current U.S. Mr. Gay, Eddie Rabon, said "there's a big pageant culture amongst ladies and I have a few really good girlfriends here in the city who did a lot of pageants and did really well in the Miss America system. They gave me some intensive interview preparation. Answering trivia questions in pageant format is a special skill."

But Spradlin refuses to use the word. "If you look in dictionary, a 'pageant' is an empty event full of pomp and circumstance. If you look at 'competition,' it's more about achieving success by being the best." METRO/AW

In the news

Philly more segregated

Philadelphia is the third most financially segregated metropolitan area in the country, a Stanford University study found. The city experienced the largest change in income segregation since 1970, jumping from the 43rd most segregated area as many blue collar industrial and production jobs left the region. METRO

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Unions to Occupy: We'll help you, but please move now

Quoted

"You should take this opportunity to vacate Dilworth Plaza and remove all of your belongings immediately."

CITY NOTICE POSTED YESTERDAY

- Labor leader says prep work for $50M Dilworth project can begin now
- City issues new message that Occupiers should move 'immediately'

The Philadelphia Building and Construction Trades Council, while not wholly opposed to Occupy Philly's message, is asking the group to move so work on the planned Dilworth Plaza renovation can begin.

"We are asking Occupy Philly to change venues," said business manager Pat Gillespie. "We're even offering to help them move their equipment, if necessary."

Some unions that fall under the umbrella of the Building Trades have independently supported Occupy Philly, but the Council has never issued an official position on the movement.

RICARD LABMA/METRO

▶ Ready to move or not?

"If the message that folks are articulating in Occupy Philly and Wall Street and Occupy all the other venues in the country is for fairness, then we're all for that," he said. "But the same sentiment can be articulated just as effectively right across the street or wherever they decide and allow us to get our work done at Dilworth Plaza."

Though mayoral spokesman Mark McDonald said yesterday that many logistical preparations still needed to be addressed before construction could begin, Gillespie said workers need access to the Plaza in order for that preliminary work to start.

"The preconstruction surveying and development that has to go on that site can start now. We can put people to work today," he said. "Basically, the message is: The sooner they move, the quicker we get to work."

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Did firms dupe Sheriff Green?

New findings given to US attorney that allege overcharging Audit claims millions taken by firms

Findings from a forensic audit of the Philadelphia sheriff's office, which claims to have found widespread mismanagement and possible fraud of millions, have been forwarded to the U.S. attorney's office.

"Sheriff John Green abandoned his responsibility to protect the public interest. He disgraced his office by allowing private parties to improperly benefit financially at the expense of the most vulnerable — those who lost their homes," said City Controller Alan Butkovitz, whose office conducted the first audit in 2010.

▶ Sheriff's bus

Green, who retired last year, conducted mortgage foreclosure, tax lien and delinquent tax sales. According to the audit, two firms — Reach and RCS — were paid $206 million by the office between 2005 and 2010 for advertising and other services. The owner of the firms was the brother of the director of the real estate division in the sheriff's office. Green, however, claimed he had no knowledge of who signed the contracts or what they were for.

The audit also allegedly reveals that the firms overcharged between $7.4 million and $11.6 million for services. It also collected money for outstanding utilities, but it did not turn the money over.

Acting Sheriff Barbara Deeley, who worked as Green's chief of staff, released a statement insisting that she is trying to fix the problems.

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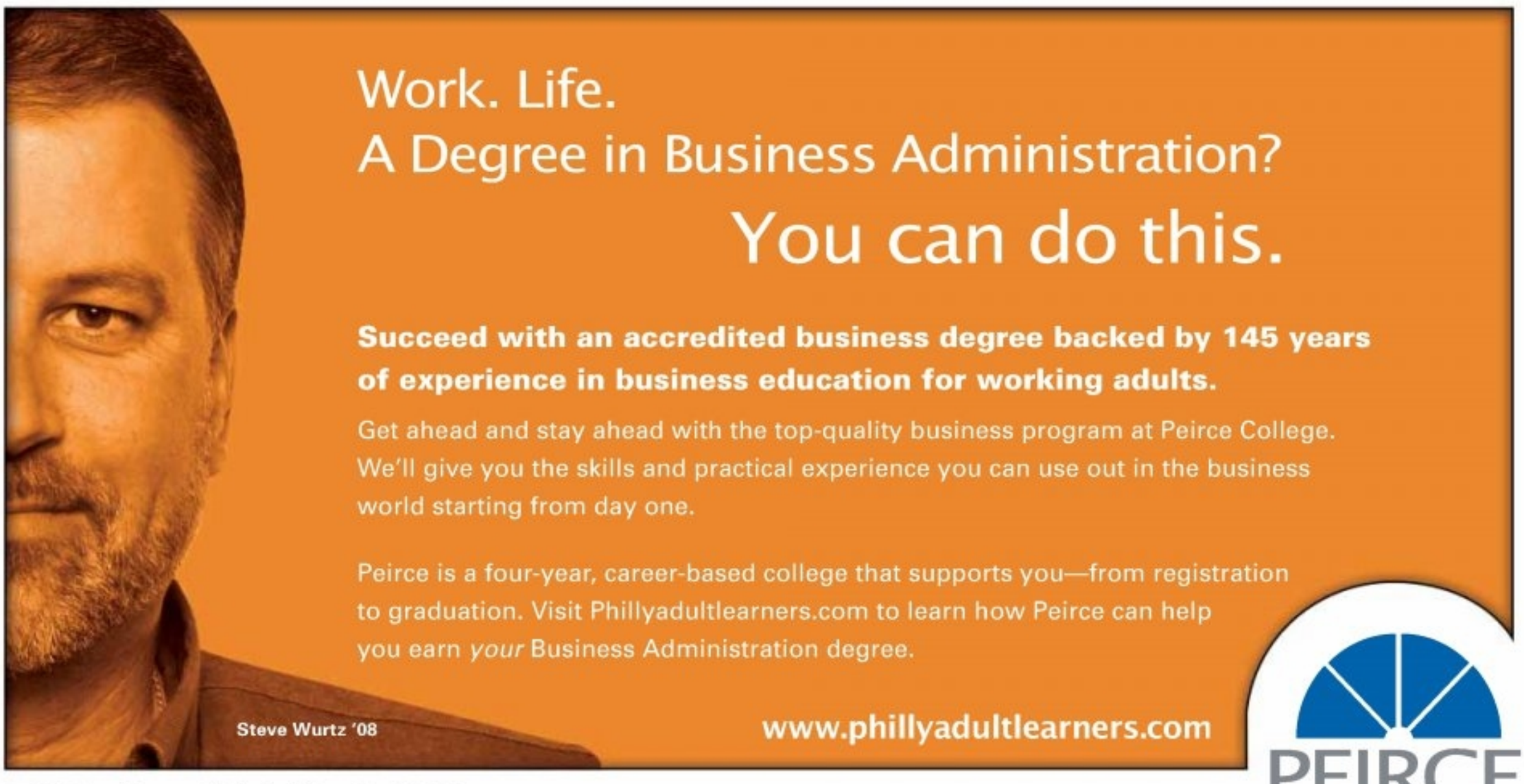
▶ "Ferris Wheel" is by Artur Andronic.

Metro Challenge photo of the day

Congratulations to Artur Andronic from the U.S., winner of Tuesday's Photo of the Day theme, "pleasure." Today's theme is "art." To enter your photos on today's theme, visit www.metrophotochallenge.com.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National Diabetes Month is a great time to take control.

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Talk to your doctor about lowering blood sugar levels. Talk to your doctor about JANUVIA.

- **JANUVIA is a once-daily prescription pill that helps your body increase the insulin made in your pancreas and decrease the sugar made in your liver.**
- **Along with diet and exercise, JANUVIA helps lower blood sugar levels in adults with type 2 diabetes.**
- **JANUVIA is not likely to cause weight gain or low blood sugar (hypoglycemia).**

JANUVIA (jah-NEW-vee-ah) should not be used in patients with type 1 diabetes or with diabetic ketoacidosis (increased ketones in the blood or urine). If you have had pancreatitis (inflammation of the pancreas), it is not known if you have a higher chance of getting it while taking JANUVIA.

Selected Risk Information About JANUVIA: Serious side effects can happen in people who take JANUVIA, including pancreatitis, which may be severe and lead to death. Before you start taking JANUVIA, tell your doctor if you've ever had pancreatitis. Stop taking JANUVIA and call your doctor right away if you have pain in your stomach area (abdomen) that is severe and will not go away. The pain may be felt going from your abdomen through to your back. The pain may happen with or without vomiting. These may be symptoms of pancreatitis.

Do not take JANUVIA if you are allergic to any of its ingredients, including sitagliptin. Symptoms of serious allergic reactions to JANUVIA, including rash, hives, and swelling of the face, lips, tongue, and throat that may cause difficulty breathing or swallowing, can occur. If you have any symptoms of a serious allergic reaction, stop taking JANUVIA and call your doctor right away.

Kidney problems, sometimes requiring dialysis, have been reported.

If you take JANUVIA with another medicine that can cause low blood sugar (hypoglycemia), such as a sulfonylurea or insulin, your risk of getting low blood sugar is higher. The dose of your sulfonylurea medicine or insulin may need to be lowered while you use JANUVIA. Signs and symptoms of low blood sugar may include headache, drowsiness, weakness, dizziness, confusion, irritability, hunger, fast heart beat, sweating, and feeling jittery.

Your doctor may do blood tests before and during treatment with JANUVIA to see how well your kidneys are working. Based on these results, your doctor may change your dose of JANUVIA. The most common side effects of JANUVIA are upper respiratory tract infection, stuffy or runny nose and sore throat, and headache.

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Januvia® (sitagliptin) tablets

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- **If your doctor thinks that JANUVIA is right for you, he or she will write a prescription for JANUVIA.**
- **Activate and print your Multi-use Savings Card by visiting www.activatethecard.com/6231.**
- **Take the prescription and the Multi-use Savings Card to a participating eligible retail or mail-order pharmacy (certain restrictions apply).**

THIS IS NOT A MULTI-USE SAVINGS CARD. The card is not insurance. Eligibility Restrictions Apply. The card is valid for patients with private insurance or cash-paying patients. **Not valid for patients covered under Medicaid, Medicare, a Medicare Part D or Medicare Advantage plan (regardless of whether a specific prescription is covered), TRICARE, CHAMPUS, Puerto Rico Government Health Insurance Plan ("Healthcare Reform"), or any other state or federal medical or pharmaceutical benefit program or pharmaceutical assistance program. The card is void for Massachusetts residents if a third-party payer reimburses or pays any amount of the prescription price or otherwise provides coverage for JANUVIA.** The card can be used only by eligible United States or Commonwealth of Puerto Rico residents at any participating eligible retail or mail-order pharmacy in the United States or the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico. Product must originate in the United States or the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico. The offer is subject to certain Terms and Conditions. See full Terms and Conditions on the Multi-use Savings Card.

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You are encouraged to report negative side effects of prescription drugs to the FDA. Visit www.fda.gov/medwatch, or call 1-800-FDA-1088.

Please see the Medication Guide on the next page and discuss it with your doctor.

JANUVIA is a prescription medication.
Only your health care provider can decide if JANUVIA is right for you.

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Medication Guide

JANUVIA® (jah-NEW-vee-ah) (sitagliptin) Tablets

Read this Medication Guide carefully before you start taking JANUVIA and each time you get a refill. There may be new information. This information does not take the place of talking with your doctor about your medical condition or your treatment. If you have any questions about JANUVIA, ask your doctor or pharmacist.

What is the most important information I should know about JANUVIA?

Serious side effects can happen in people taking JANUVIA, including inflammation of the pancreas (pancreatitis) which may be severe and lead to death.

Certain medical problems make you more likely to get pancreatitis.

Before you start taking JANUVIA:

Tell your doctor if you have ever had

- pancreatitis
- stones in your gallbladder (gallstones)
- a history of alcoholism
- high blood triglyceride levels
- kidney problems

Stop taking JANUVIA and call your doctor right away if you have pain in your stomach area (abdomen) that is severe and will not go away. The pain may be felt going from your abdomen through to your back. The pain may happen with or without vomiting. These may be symptoms of pancreatitis.

What is JANUVIA?

- JANUVIA is a prescription medicine used along with diet and exercise to lower blood sugar in adults with type 2 diabetes.
- JANUVIA is not for people with type 1 diabetes.
- JANUVIA is not for people with diabetic ketoacidosis (increased ketones in your blood or urine).
- If you have had pancreatitis (inflammation of the pancreas) in the past, it is not known if you have a higher chance of getting pancreatitis while you take JANUVIA.
- It is not known if JANUVIA is safe and effective when used in children under 18 years of age.

Who should not take JANUVIA?

Do not take JANUVIA if:

- you are allergic to any of the ingredients in JANUVIA. See the end of this Medication Guide for a complete list of ingredients in JANUVIA.

Symptoms of a serious allergic reaction to JANUVIA may include:

- rash
- raised red patches on your skin (hives)
- swelling of the face, lips, tongue, and throat that may cause difficulty in breathing or swallowing

What should I tell my doctor before taking JANUVIA?

Before you take JANUVIA, tell your doctor if you:

- have or have had inflammation of your pancreas (pancreatitis).
- have kidney problems.
- have any other medical conditions.
- are pregnant or plan to become pregnant. It is not known if JANUVIA will harm your unborn baby. If you are pregnant, talk with your doctor about the best way to control your blood sugar while you are pregnant.

  Pregnancy Registry: If you take JANUVIA at any time during your pregnancy, talk with your doctor about how you can join the JANUVIA pregnancy registry. The purpose of this registry is to collect information about the health of you and your baby. You can enroll in this registry by calling 1-800-986-8999.
- are breast-feeding or plan to breast-feed. It is not known if JANUVIA will pass into your breast milk. Talk with your doctor about the best way to feed your baby if you are taking JANUVIA.

Tell your doctor about all the medicines you take, including prescription and non-prescription medicines, vitamins, and herbal supplements.

Know the medicines you take. Keep a list of your medicines and show it to your doctor and pharmacist when you get a new medicine.

How should I take JANUVIA?

- Take JANUVIA 1 time each day exactly as your doctor tells you.
- You can take JANUVIA with or without food.
- Your doctor may do blood tests from time to time to see how well your kidneys are working. Your doctor may change your dose of JANUVIA based on the results of your blood tests.
- Your doctor may tell you to take JANUVIA along with other diabetes medicines. Low blood sugar can happen more often when JANUVIA is taken with certain other diabetes medicines. See **"What are the possible side effects of JANUVIA?".**
- If you miss a dose, take it as soon as you remember. If you do not remember until it is time for your next dose, skip the missed dose and go back to your regular schedule. Do not take two doses of JANUVIA at the same time.
- If you take too much JANUVIA, call your doctor or local Poison Control Center right away.
- When your body is under some types of stress, such as fever, trauma (such as a car accident), infection or surgery, the amount of diabetes medicine that you need may change. Tell your doctor right away if you have any of these conditions and follow your doctor's instructions.
- Check your blood sugar as your doctor tells you to.
- Stay on your prescribed diet and exercise program while taking JANUVIA.
- Talk to your doctor about how to prevent, recognize and manage low blood sugar (hypoglycemia), high blood sugar (hyperglycemia), and problems you have because of your diabetes.
- Your doctor will check your diabetes with regular blood tests, including your blood sugar levels and your hemoglobin A1C.

What are the possible side effects of JANUVIA?

Serious side effects have happened in people taking JANUVIA.

- See **"What is the most important information I should know about JANUVIA?".**
- **Low blood sugar (hypoglycemia).** If you take JANUVIA with another medicine that can cause low blood sugar, such as a sulfonylurea or insulin, your risk of getting low blood sugar is higher. The dose of your sulfonylurea medicine or insulin may need to be lowered while you use JANUVIA. Signs and symptoms of low blood sugar may include:
  - headache
  - drowsiness
  - weakness
  - dizziness
  - confusion
  - irritability
  - hunger
  - fast heart beat
  - sweating
  - feeling jittery
- **Serious allergic reactions.** If you have any symptoms of a serious allergic reaction, stop taking JANUVIA and call your doctor right away. See **"Who should not take JANUVIA?"**. Your doctor may give you a medicine for your allergic reaction and prescribe a different medicine for your diabetes.
- **Kidney problems,** sometimes requiring dialysis

The most common side effects of JANUVIA include:

- upper respiratory infection
- stuffy or runny nose and sore throat
- headache

JANUVIA may have other side effects, including:

- stomach upset and diarrhea
- swelling of the hands or legs, when JANUVIA is used with rosiglitazone (Avandia®). Rosiglitazone is another type of diabetes medicine.

These are not all the possible side effects of JANUVIA. For more information, ask your doctor or pharmacist.

Tell your doctor if you have any side effect that bothers you, is unusual or does not go away.

Call your doctor for medical advice about side effects. You may report side effects to FDA at 1-800-FDA-1088.

How should I store JANUVIA?

Store JANUVIA at 68°F to 77°F (20°C to 25°C).

Keep JANUVIA and all medicines out of the reach of children.

General information about the use of JANUVIA

Medicines are sometimes prescribed for purposes that are not listed in Medication Guides. Do not use JANUVIA for a condition for which it was not prescribed. Do not give JANUVIA to other people, even if they have the same symptoms you have. It may harm them.

This Medication Guide summarizes the most important information about JANUVIA. If you would like to know more information, talk with your doctor. You can ask your doctor or pharmacist for additional information about JANUVIA that is written for health professionals. For more information, go to www.JANUVIA.com or call 1-800-622-4477.

What are the ingredients in JANUVIA?

Active ingredient: sitagliptin.

Inactive ingredients: microcrystalline cellulose, anhydrous dibasic calcium phosphate, croscarmellose sodium, magnesium stearate, and sodium stearyl fumarate. The tablet film coating contains the following inactive ingredients: polyvinyl alcohol, polyethylene glycol, talc, titanium dioxide, red iron oxide, and yellow iron oxide.

What is type 2 diabetes?

Type 2 diabetes is a condition in which your body does not make enough insulin, and the insulin that your body produces does not work as well as it should. Your body can also make too much sugar. When this happens, sugar (glucose) builds up in the blood. This can lead to serious medical problems.

High blood sugar can be lowered by diet and exercise, and by certain medicines when necessary.

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This Medication Guide has been approved by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration.

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Januvia®
(sitagliptin) tablets

O-no-bama: Romney up in NH poll

Driven down by economic forces, President Barack Obama is running poorly in New Hampshire, a state he carried in 2008 and one that has been a swing state in recent presidential elections.

Obama trails Republican Mitt Romney among likely general election voters in the state by 10 percentage points in a hypothetical contest amid voter discontent with the president's job performance and the economy, according to a Bloomberg poll conducted Nov. 10-11. Obama carried New Hampshire by 54 percent to 45 percent in 2008.

Independent voters in the state, the site of the nation's first presidential primary, have swung even more strongly against Obama. Romney would win independents there by 15 percentage points, the poll shows.

Obama's standing illustrates the toll the U.S. economy has taken on him in a state that has fared better than most. BLOOMBERG

50-40

The poll that showed Romney leading Obama 50 percent to 40 percent didn't test matchups against potential Republican nominees.

STUART MCEVOY/GETTY IMAGES

Supreme Court. Repeal?

▶ President Barack Obama has much to worry over lately.

Most against health care

As the Supreme Court prepares to review Obama's health care reform, more Americans want to see it repealed than want to keep it, a poll released yesterday shows. A Gallup survey of more than 1,000 U.S. adults found 47 percent favor the repeal of health care reform versus 42 percent who want the law kept in place. Eleven percent had no opinion. REUTERS

MF Global customers may get money back

NEW YORK. Thousands of former MF Global Holdings customers may soon recover $520 million of cash held in their accounts at the bankrupt brokerage, and a U.S. futures regulator called for robust oversight to limit the potential for another collapse.

A bankruptcy judge today will consider a request by James Giddens, the trustee supervising the liquidation of the MF Global Inc broker-dealer unit, to release $520 million to between 15,000 and 21,000 commodities customers who held only cash in their accounts. REUTERS

Risky bet

MF Global filed for bankruptcy protection on Oct. 31 amid a liquidity crunch as customers, credit-rating agencies and counterparties worried about its $6.3 billion bet on European sovereign debt.

Clinton gets egged

MANILA. Secretary of State Hillary Clinton's motorcade was pelted with rocks, eggs and paintballs as she travelled through the Philippines capitol of Manila yesterday. The secretary was not injured in the incident, said State Department spokesman Mark Toner. There were about 50 people "who threw eggs, paintballs and rocks at the lead car," apparently to protest a military agreement between the U.S. and the Philippines. BLOOMBERG

ADULTS BRACES CHILDREN

Harold Slutsky, DMD

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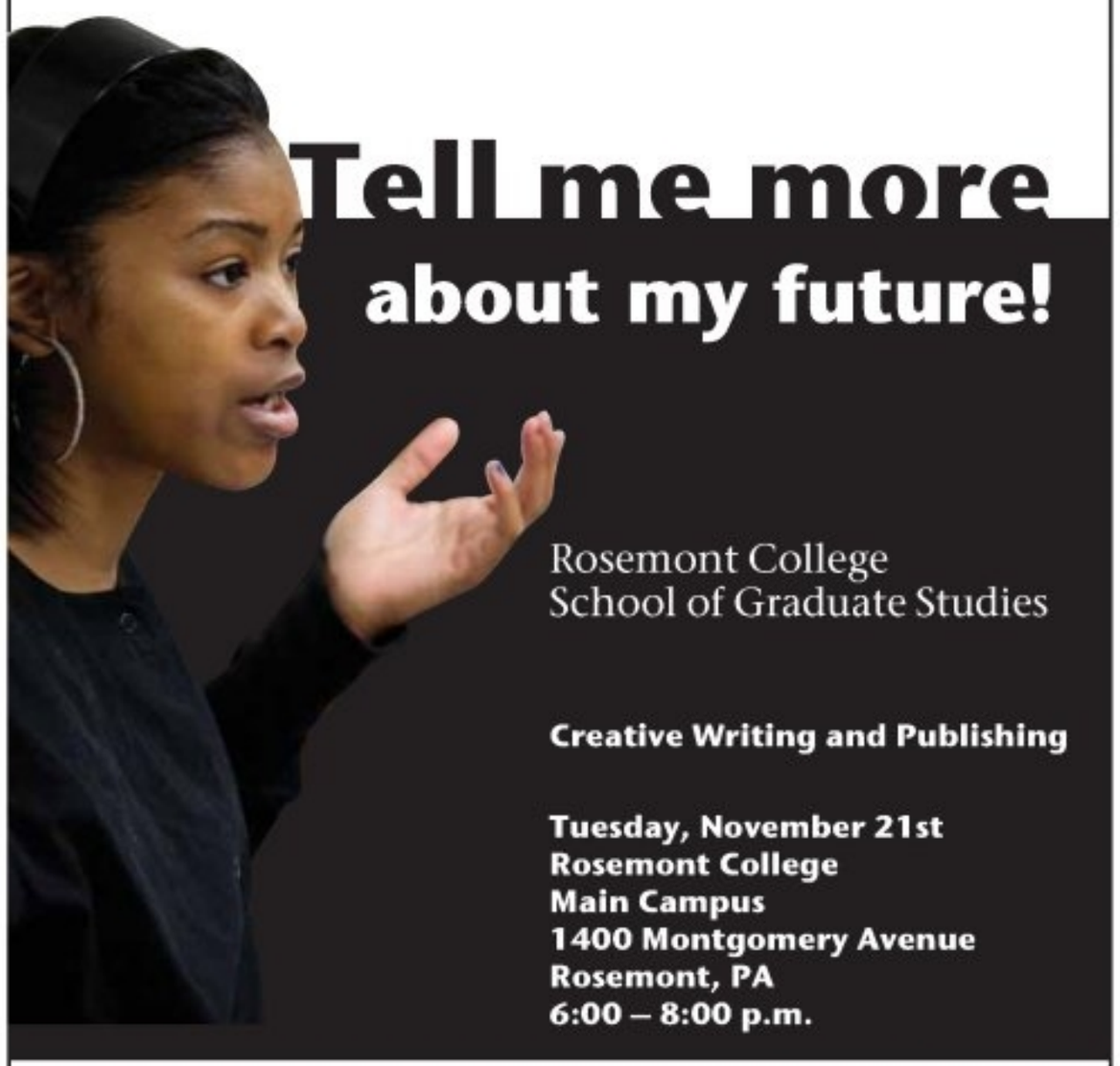

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Amish craftsmen vow to keep up with rush for brand-new Hybrid-Thermic™ 'Miracle Heater' that uses about the same energy as a coffee maker per hour, so just plug it in and never be cold again

Everyone hates high heat bills. But we're all sick and tired of turning the thermostat down and freezing our buns off.

That's why Sears knew they had a home-run on their hands with the first-ever low-cost appliance with Hybrid-Thermic™ heat technology. And no other heater anywhere has it.

The brand-new portable Heat Surge HT L.E.D. sips so little energy, you can run it all day or all night for just about a buck.

This modern marvel, hailed as the 'Miracle Heater,' caused such a frenzy at Sears stores, one shopper refused to leave until she got one. Since there were none in stock, store managers were forced to hand over the store's only floor model, against store policy.

So today, immediate action is being taken to give more people, more ways to get them.

Beginning at 8:30 a.m., today's readers are allowed to phone in or snag one online. Heat Surge even posted a 2-Day Double Coupon which has been reprinted for today's readers to use.

By using this coupon, everyone who calls is being rewarded with $198. That makes this remarkable new home appliance a real steal at just $398. The Double Coupon Deal also entitles you to free home delivery. So now everyone has a fair shot at getting one.

■ **GOTTA HAVE ONE:** People are flocking to Sears to get the brand-new Heat Surge HT L.E.D. An eager crowd remained respectful as Jonas Miller directs the first deliveries. "I heard so much about the Amish Miracle Heater but couldn't find where to get one," an excited Mary Straughn said. That's why a National Appliance Hotline has been set up for today's readers who can't rush out to get one. Readers who call the Hotline at 1-888-209-8569 will get free delivery and an extraordinary 2-Day Double Coupon that has been reprinted to the right.

"Folks are saving money everywhere with the new Heat Surge HT L.E.D.," said Kris Rumel, the analyst tracking the impact Heat Surge is having on consumer heat bills.

This all started when Sears wanted the world-famous 'Amish Miracle Heater' that everyone was asking for.

The shy but now famous Amish craftsman said Sears made the most sense. "I'd reckon they're the oldest and most trusted in the country," one of the Amish craftsmen known as Melvin said.

"We've been saving folks money, big money. And we know it because we're hearin' about it," he said.

"They know about our quality. No particle board, just real wood. Fully-assembled

cabinets by our hands and we're making them right here in the good ole USA," Melvin said.

Director of Technology David Martin explained, "The Heat Surge HT L.E.D. is a revolutionary appliance that can easily roll from room to room. But we didn't want it to look like some metal box that just sits there. So we turned to our Amish craftsmen and now each one is made to look like a sleek, slim fireplace that has no real flames."

"The peaceful flicker of the 'Fireless Flame' is so beautiful, everyone thinks it's real, but it's totally safe to the touch. All you do is just plug it in," Martin said.

People from Maine to Mississippi and even Florida and Arizona are flocking to get them because they are finally able to give their central heat a rest during this long, frigid winter.

According to the avalanche of consumer reviews, people absolutely swear by them, repeatedly saying, "it saves money," "looks beautiful," and "keeps you warm head to toe, floor to ceiling." And the word is getting out. That's why people are clamoring to get them.

But Martin said right now the real problem is making sure the Amish craftsmen can keep up with the looming Christmas rush.

That's why the Double Coupon expires in two days.

So for readers hoping to get the new Heat Surge for themselves and take care of Christmas gifts for others, there is good news.

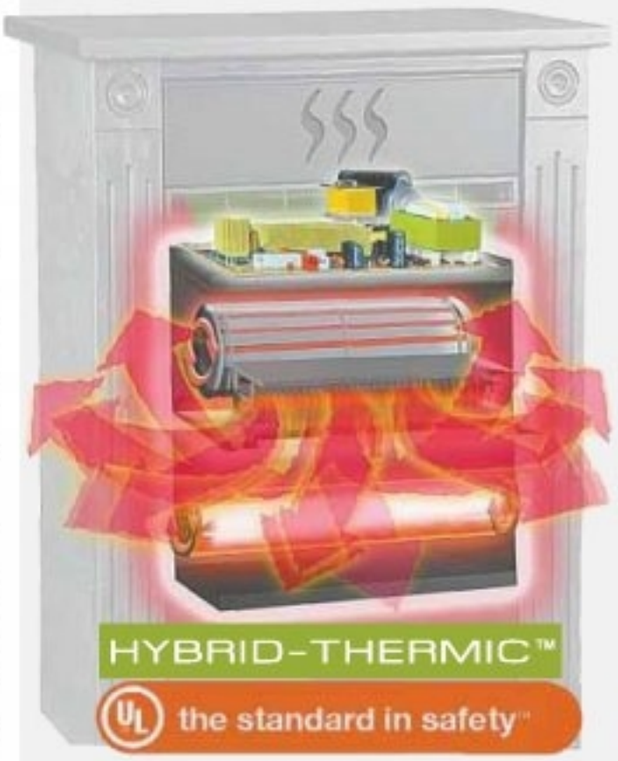
You can use the 2-Day Double Coupon more than once. But there is a catch. You can only get away with it for the next two days from the date of today's publication by calling the National Appliance Center at 1-888-209-8569.

Then, when it arrives, you'll be rushing to turn down that thermostat. Just plug it in, watch your heat bills hit rock bottom, and never be cold again. ■

■ **BLANKET FREE COMFORT:** "We just couldn't take another winter of always being cold. And as an early Christmas gift, we got one for the kids to help them with their heat bills," Julia White said.

■ **SAFE:** The beautiful *Fireless* Flame on the new Heat Surge HT L.E.D. is so stunning, everyone thinks it's real, but it's actually safe to the touch. It's so safe, it's where the kids will play & the pets will sleep.

How It Works: You get 74° of bone-soothing room heat even when the home thermostat is turned down to 59° with the first-ever Heat Surge HT L.E.D.



■ **MODERN MARVEL:** The revolutionary Heat Surge HT L.E.D. micro-furnace fits in any room because it's packed inside a small Amish-built cabinet that measures just 25" high, 32" wide, and 12" deep.

This is the revolutionary Heat Surge HT L.E.D., the first-ever appliance with Hybrid-Thermic™ heat technology. Hybrid-Thermic heat is an engineering genius so advanced, it actually uses a micro-furnace from the Coast of China and a thermal heat exchanger to perform its miracles. The thermal heat exchanger acts like the rays of the sun to heat you, the kids, the pets and everything else. The micro-furnace then heats all the surrounding air. Together, this Hybrid-Thermic heat warms both you and the air around you, taking care of all the cold spots. In fact, it actually produces Ortho-Thermic™, bone-soothing heat.

This modern marvel uses just a trickle of electricity and saves you money based on a U.S. average that says it uses only about 9¢ of electricity an hour on the standard setting, yet it produces up to an amazing 4,606 British Thermal Units (BTU's) on the high setting.

Home thermostat set at 59°

Notice how the home thermostat is set at 59°. The left shows the Heat Surge Hybrid-Thermic 'Miracle Heater' blanketing the whole-room with 74° of warmth.

But here's the big surprise. It's not just a metal box that belongs in a basement. The Heat Surge HT L.E.D. is a showpiece in any room. That's because it has the ambiance of a real fireplace, but it has no real flames. Its *Fireless* Flame® technology makes it safe to the touch.

The portable Heat Surge HT L.E.D. comes installed in a genuine Amish-built wood cabinet made in the heartland of Ohio. They are hand-rubbed, stained, and varnished. When it arrives, all you do is just plug it in.

A Consumer Best Buy

An avalanche of unsolicited consumer reviews gives the company the reason to boast an overwhelming **Consumer 'Best Buy'** on the HeatReport.com website. Consumers should be aware of the fakes out there. This Hybrid-Thermic 'Miracle Heater' can never be found at Wal-Mart®, not at Lowe's®, not at Home Depot®, and none of the Club Stores. "Accept no imitations. If it does not have the Heat Surge name on it, it is not real Amish and it is not Hybrid-Thermic™. I repeat, if it does not have the Heat Surge name on it, you are getting ripped off," said Heat Surge Chief Compliance Officer, Bob Knowles. The Heat Surge has earned the coveted Underwriters Laboratories certification and is protected by a limited full year replacement or money back warranty and 30-day Satisfaction Guarantee.

How to get the Double Coupon Deal: Phone in to use coupon now

■ **JUST 2 DAYS REMAIN:** An extraordinary $198.00 Double Coupon Deal has been authorized for today's readers. To use the $198.00 coupon and get the Heat Surge HT L.E.D. for just $398, you must call the National Appliance Center at 1-888-209-8569. For those that beat the deadline, the Double Coupon also entitles you to FREE Shipping and Handling.

COUPON

HEAT SURGE HT
HYBRID-THERMIC™
AUTHORIZED ONLY FOR PHONE OR WEB ORDERS

EXPIRES 2 Days From Today's Publication Date
After Coupon Expires: $547.00 plus S&H

$198.00 off

On any **ONE (1)** Heat Surge HT™ L.E.D. Hybrid-Thermic™ Miracle Heater in Dark Oak or Light Oak finish delivered to your door with **FREE Shipping & Handling**

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TO USE THIS COUPON: Call the National Appliance Center Hotline at **1-888-209-8569** and give the operator the 2-Day Double Coupon Code shown below the barcode which also entitles you to FREE Shipping & Handling.

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Bieber baby suit dropped but not over

The woman who claimed teen singer Justin Bieber fathered a baby with her has dropped her paternity lawsuit, but Mariah Yeater's lawyer said yesterday she is pursuing her claim out of court.

Yeater, 20, of southern California, had claimed in her lawsuit that she had sex backstage with the 17-year-old Canadian singer last year and that he was the father of her baby who was born in July. She was demanding child support.

Bieber has repeatedly denied the allegation, saying he never met Yeater but said last week he would take a paternity test.

Chicago attorney Jeffery Leving said that Yeater had dropped the lawsuit but had a new legal team and hoped to reach a private settlement with Bieber's lawyers. "This matter is not over," Leving said.

"She believes Justin Bieber is the father. Negotiations are going on right now with Bieber's counsel." LEVING

It was not clear why the paternity lawsuit was dropped, but Leving said Yeater had received death threats and was being harassed by the media. REUTERS

DANIEL BEREHULAK/GETTY IMAGES

India. Animals

▶ A mahut throws a rope around the neck of an elephant.

Elephants: Big business

Traders at the Sonepur Mela cattle fair, in the Indian state of Bihar, have a long history of applying makeup to their animal merchandise to attract potential buyers arriving from across the country. MWN

Gingrich: Yes, I was paid by mortgagers

URBANDALE, IOWA. Republican presidential candidate Newt Gingrich acknowledged yesterday that he had received consulting fees from troubled mortgage giant Freddie Mac for providing "strategic advice."

Campaigning in Iowa, Gingrich said he did not believe he was contracted by the government-owned housing finance giant as a friendly voice who would avoid criticizing it.

"I was glad to offer strategic advice. ... Gingrich Group was very successful." GINGRICH

He was reacting to reports he had been paid between $1.6 million and $1.8 million in consulting fees from two contracts with Freddie Mac. REUTERS

Executive pay defended

WASHINGTON. Top executives at Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac on yesterday defended their companies' pay practices from attack by lawmakers angry that the government-controlled firms were paying out nearly $13 million in executive bonuses.

The chief executives of Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac's argued the compensation structures at the mortgage firms were needed to retain and attract qualified staff. REUTERS

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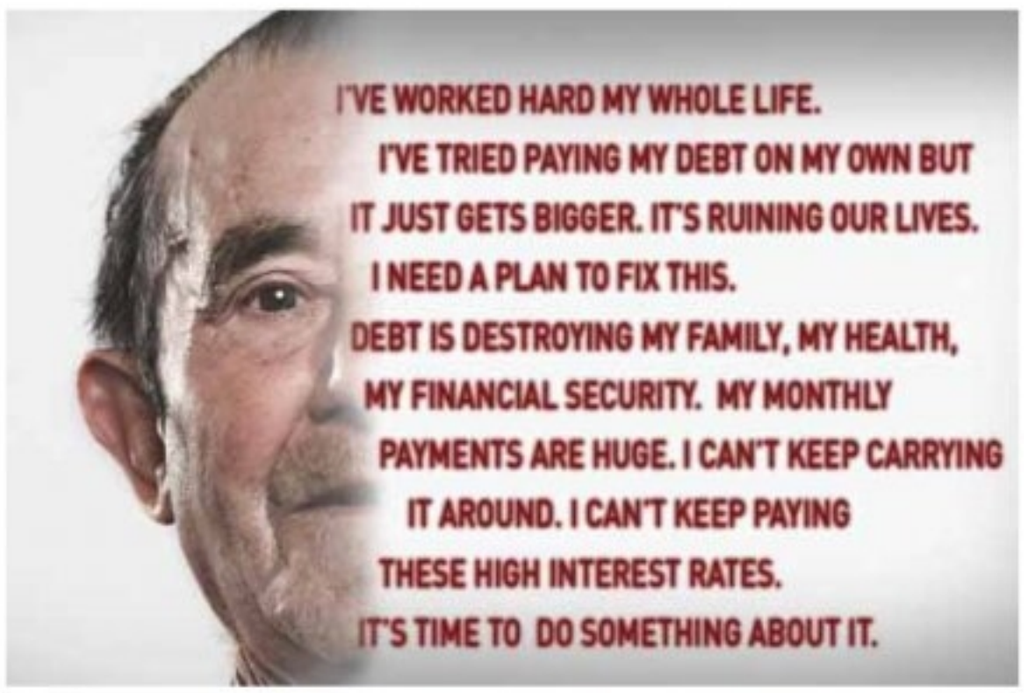
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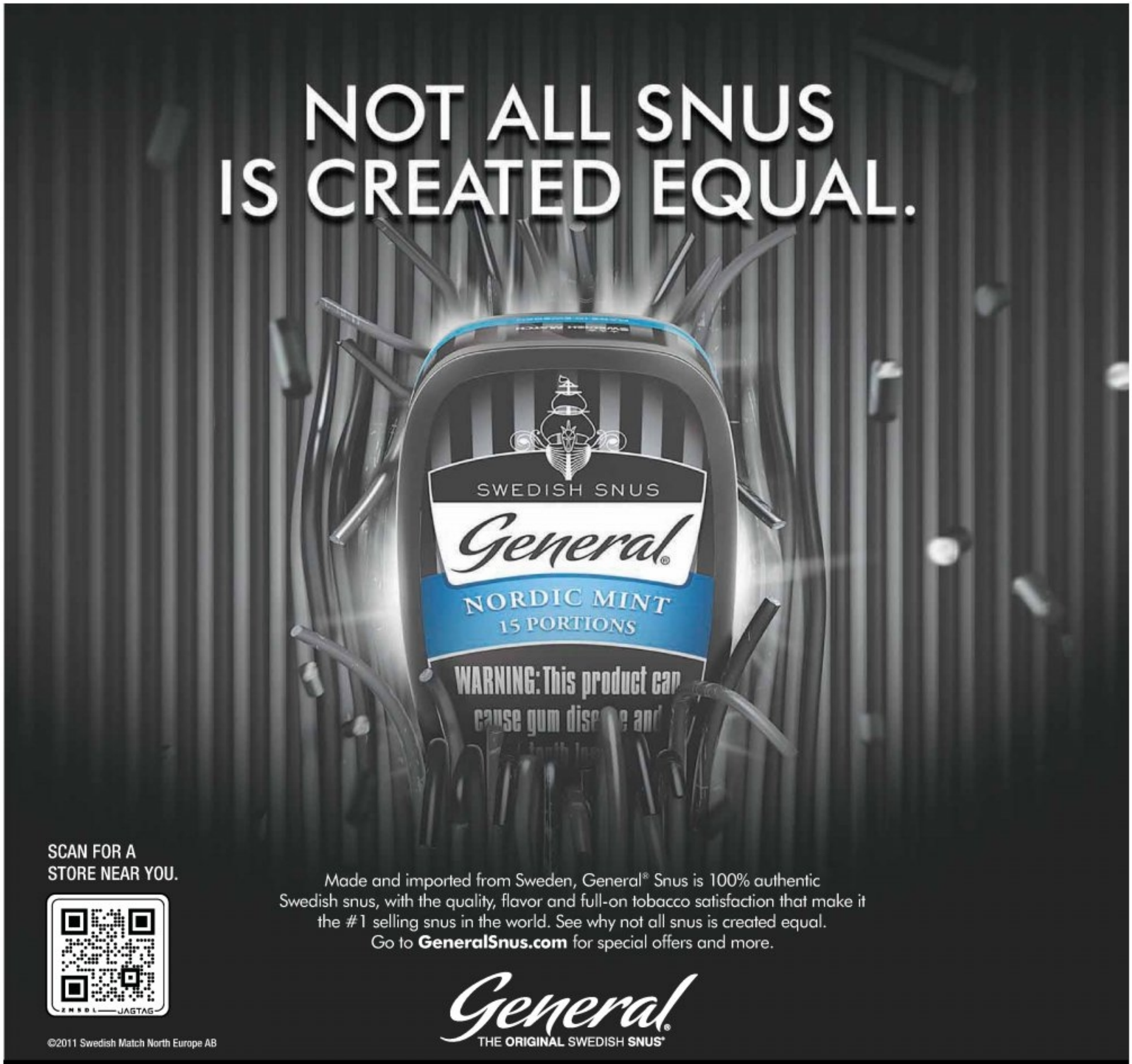
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THE WORD

Metro's **Dorothy Robinson** shares her take on the world of gossip @dorothyatmetro dorothy.robinson@metro.us

Wearing a corset? It's a cinch, says Von Teese

Dita Von Teese attended the My Cointreau Travel Essentials event at the Forty Four at the Royalton on Tuesday.

ROBIN MARCHANT/FILMMAGIC

Striptease star and corset collector **Dita Von Teese** visited New York on Tuesday night to unveil Cointreau Travel Essentials, her portable cocktail kit for women on the go. Swizzle-stick thin and flanked by New York's downtown comedy king Murray Hill, she talked to Metro about why the new burlesque scene attracts so many female fans.

"I think it's because they like to see an alternative kind of beauty. I'm not tan, I'm not blonde, I don't look right in a bikini." When we protested, she explained, "Running on the beach in a bikini isn't really my thing. I'm never going to be on the cover of the Sports Illustrated swimsuit issue, let's put it that way."

With so many women embracing burlesque, does she see the corset making a comeback? "I think what's great is we have the option. We can wear whatever we want, and we can be whoever we want — and if we want to wear a corset, we can wear it our way. There are lots of ways to bring the corset into your life without suffering."

New to burlesque? Dita suggests catching a **Dirty Martini** show (www.missdirtymartini.com). "She's one of my favorite performers, and one of those women who shows that you can be beautiful at any size."

— With additional reporting by Rebecca Finkel

Who is the sexiest? Bradley Cooper

▶ Cooper

Bradley Cooper has been named People's Sexiest Man Alive.

Why? Let the fawning magazine count the ways: He went to Georgetown University (preppy!), cooks, is fluent in French, but isn't prissy, 'cause the dude knows how to drive a motorcycle. And, if that's not all, he's close to his mother. "My mother is going to be so happy," he told the magazine when he first found out the news. He also probably thought: "I'm going to get so much more tail because of this. Way to go, self."

Or perhaps he didn't think that? "If you're a single man and you happen to be in this business," he told the magazine, "you're deemed a player. But I don't see myself as a ladies' man." For the interview, Cooper was mum on his current relationships (including the gossip he was/is hooking up with Jennifer Lopez), just saying he describes himself as "single 36-year-old male."

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WWW.METRO.US/WORD
DOROTHY ROBINSON'S WORD BLOG

The feed ...

Checking in with some of Hollywood's biggest names to see what they've been up to — in their own words, in 140 characters or fewer.

Kathy Griffin has her pre-show rituals, Sofia Vergara is enjoying the view, Albert Brooks is keeping up with the times and Seth MacFarlane is losing his patience.

▶ **@kathygriffin**
Look, I don't know what Liza does before playing Carnegie Hall, but I'm watching marathon of "Pitbulls & Parolees" Weird??

▶ **@SofiaVergara**
OMG so many cute guys at the Latin Grammys!

▶ **@AlbertBrooks**
60 is the new 40. Dollars, not age.

▶ **@SethMacFarlane**
Still have not had one sweet dream made of anything involving Annie Lennox.

MacFarlane

Talking points

Diaz still uses the words 'booty call'

With **Alex Rodriguez** apparently out of the picture, **Cameron Diaz** seems to be rekindling her romance with **Sean "Diddy" Combs**, according to Us Weekly. Sources say the pair have had an on-again, off-again fling going since Combs first pursued Diaz in 2008. "Since then, when she's single, she'll booty call him," a source says. And now apparently is no different. The pair were recently spotted getting cozy at a dinner in New York, and then this week they turned heads in Los Angeles, where they were "making out, acting romantic" during a lunch in Beverly Hills. Reps for both say the stars are "just friends" and have been meeting to discuss a project.

▶ Diaz

Gallagher's Katie Holmes run-in

Noel Gallagher is none too pleased with **Katie Holmes** after the two had a run-in backstage at **David Letterman**'s talk show. The problem? Holmes apparently objected to appearing in video footage being shot of the former Oasis guitarist, Gallagher says on his blog. "We literally bumped into that top Scientologist Katie Holmes on the way into the studio. We came out of the lift and BANG, there she was," Gallagher writes. "Now at this point my mate, and friend of the stars, Scully was doing a bit of filming for my website and managed to capture the moment. ... [Holmes] looked a bit miffed at the various Northwest accents and some vigorous handshaking. ... There was no need to send one of her people over to demand the video be deleted. Un-f—in'-believable."

Talk about awkward

George Clooney's ex-girlfriend and current girlfriend nearly had an awkward run-in, as both **Elisabetta Canalis** and **Stacy Keibler** showed up at a big bash at Grauman's Chinese Theater in Hollywood, according to Us Weekly. And while no words were exchanged between the two, the tension was reportedly palpable, as Canalis and Keibler "were always on opposite sides of the room," a party attendee says. "They were basically avoiding each other the whole night."

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Just kickin' it this Thursday

1: Members of the Rockettes lit up The Empire State Building yesterday in New York City.

2: Brooke Shields and Brad Oscar, currently co-starring in "The Addams Family," co-hosted the 12th annual Make Believe on Broadway gala at the Shubert Theatre on Monday. Proceeds benefit the Only Make Believe foundation, which brings theatrical arts to children undergoing long-term hospital care.

3: At the same event, Andrew Rannells and Josh Gad, both currently starring in "Book of Mormon," took to the stage to perform "You and Me."

4: Blake Lively attended the Museum of Modern Art's fourth annual film benefit, "A Tribute to Pedro Almodovar," in New York City on Tuesday.

5: Mila Kunis attended the Jaguar Land Rover preview reception for the 2011 Los Angeles Auto Show held in Beverly Hills on Tuesday.

6: George Clooney attended the premiere of "The Descendants" at AMPAS Samuel Goldwyn Theater in Beverly Hills on Tuesday. The film will be in theaters this Friday.

7: Tilda Swinton was seen at the "We Need to Talk About Kevin" screening at the Sunshine Landmark in New York City on Tuesday. The drama-thriller will be released next month.

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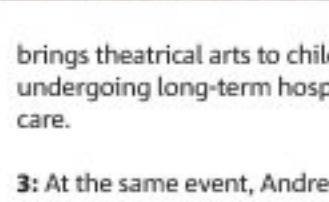
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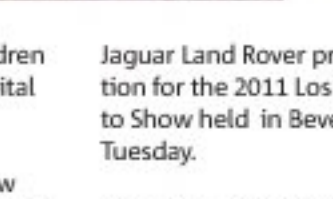
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GOOD CREDIT

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Stow & Go, 3 TV's, Swivel Chairs, 3rd Row Seat, CD/MP3
$15,999

CHARGE-OFFS

2007 Infiniti G35x
AWD, Leather, Sunroof, Keyless Entry, Alloy Wheels
$19,999

2008 Nissan Rogue S
Low Miles, Keyless Entry, Alloy Wheels, AM/FM/CD, All Power
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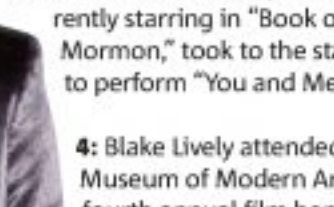
FINANCING 4 EVERYONE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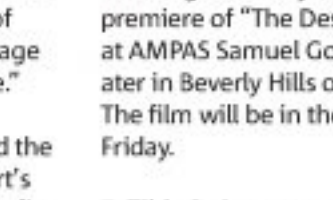
Low Miles, Leather, Sunroof, Keyless Entry, Alloy Wheel, Privacy Glass
$18,999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REPOS

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Leather, Keyless Entry, Fog Lights, Alloy Wheels, Heated Mirrors,
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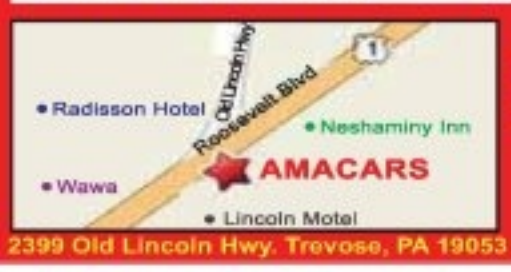

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Chunky Move gets 'Connected'

▶ The Australian dance troupe stars alongside a sculpture in their latest.

The kinetic sculpture that serves as the centerpiece of Aussie dance company Chunky Move's piece "Connected" was conceived by California sculptor Reuben Margolin, but it's created each night by the dancers themselves. By letting the company not only animate but construct the wavelike structure, artistic director/choreographer Gideon Obarzanek hoped to breathe some life into the object.

"I was really hoping that watching the sculpture interpreted through the movement of a person's body would come to symbolize something more psychological than purely physical," Obarzanek says. "It's quite beautiful because even though the sculpture is made out of string and paper and steel and plastic, once in motion it transcends that and appears as something far more organic and almost alive."

If you go

Chunky Move: 'Connected'
Tonight through Saturday
Annenberg Center for the Performing Arts
3680 Walnut St.
$20-$50, 215-898-3900
www.annenbergcenter.org

Following Chunky Move's current North American tour, Obarzanek will be leaving the company that he founded nearly 16 years ago. Following the performance, he'll engage the audience in a brief conversation.

"Frankly, I've just had enough of running a company," he says about calling it quits. "I found it challenging in the beginning, but the grind of running a contemporary performance group and being responsible for a whole bunch of people is something that I never really got used to."

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5 Reasons to go to the movies this weekend

Must-see

ANDREW COOPER

▶ Robert Pattinson and Kristen Stewart finally consummate their eternal burning love in "The Twilight Saga: Breaking Dawn - Part 1."

1 'The Twilight Saga: Breaking Dawn - Part 1' All eyes are on Mr. and Mrs. Cullen this weekend, as mortal Bella and vampire Edward tie the knot and, you know, "break a headboard" — the new euphemism for Twihards everywhere.

2 'Happy Feet 2' The dancing penguins are back with an impressive list of celebrities giving voice to them. This time, the feisty feathered folk try to stave off a threat to their home.

3 'The Descendants' George Clooney is a Hawaiian land baron coping with his wife's comatose state after a water-skiing accident. As he takes on the parental duties, he also finds out shocking details of his wife's secret life without him.

4 'Immortals' Tarsem Singh, director of "The Cell" and one of the two new Snow White remakes, has a fun box-office hit on his hands with this tale of a man (Henry Cavill) chosen by Zeus to fight against King Hyperion and his quest to find the ultimate weapon of mass destruction.

5 'J. Edgar' Though Clint Eastwood's latest effort may not shine like some of his previous films, this biopic about the first head of the FBI is fascinating, if only for the way they made Leo DiCaprio look fat and decrepit. METRO

TV watch list

'20/20'

NEWS. In honor of Regis Philbin signing off of his 28-year gig hosting "Live!", Katie Couric interviews the TV icon about his childhood, his illustrious career and what's next. **8 p.m., ABC**

'The League'

COMEDY. Both Jeff Goldblum (as Ruxin's dad) and Sarah Silverman (playing Andre's sister) get invites to the Thanksgiving table this year. **10:30 p.m., FX**

FOR MORE OF AMBER'S TV COVERAGE, GO TO: **WWW.METRO.US/TV**

'Big Shrimpin'"

REALITY. Fishing. It's a TV thing now. The latest entry into the "dudes catching your dinner" fray follows Alabama fishermen filling their boats with the delicious little crustaceans. **Series premiere, 10 p.m., History Channel**

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Should I sleep with him on the first date?

Blake Lively and Ryan Reynolds might be going strong in their relationship — having been spotted enjoying a cozy meal together in Boston this past weekend — but it wasn't too long ago that they had their first date. Even a celebrity has to consider that all pervasive question: Should I sleep with him on the first date? Like anyone at the beginning of a relationship, you have to ask yourself what you want out of the relationship. Will he/she still call in the morning, whatever you decide?

To begin with, you must have a few things in order so you can feel good about yourself the morning after — no matter what happens. Be very clear about your expectations. If you want to have a sexual romp because you're in the mood, haven't had sex in quite a while, find your guy attractive and want to exercise your sexual freedom, then — as long as you are aware that this one night may be all you share together — you can decide to go ahead with an open mind and clear conscience.

It's important for you to think about this before the date so you can take responsibility and practice safe sex. This way you won't wind up feeling pressured or caught off guard, which can lead to taking risks.

But if this is a guy you'd really like to get to know better and would like to see again, it may be best to hold off on getting sexually involved — many times first-

Shrink Wrap

Dr. JANE GREER
LETTERS@METRO.US

▶ Before their courtship became public, Reynolds and Lively worked together on "The Green Lantern." They are pictured here promoting the film together last June.

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date sex for guys means something entirely different from what it means to women. The guys can have sex and consider it a "great date," but that doesn't necessarily mean that they want to get to know you better. In fact, for some guys the sexual encounter may be enough for them — and then they are ready to move on and meet someone new.

So, unless you are completely comfortable with the fact that you may never hear from the guy again, and that's fine with you, you are probably better off waiting — at least for date No. 2!

*— Relationship expert **Dr. Jane Greer** is creator of **"Shrink Wrap"** – national commentary on what we can learn from celebrity relationships – and host of **"Let's Talk Sex"** at **Healthylife.net.** Her book, **"What About Me? Stop Selfishness From Ruining Your Relationship,"** is available nationwide.*

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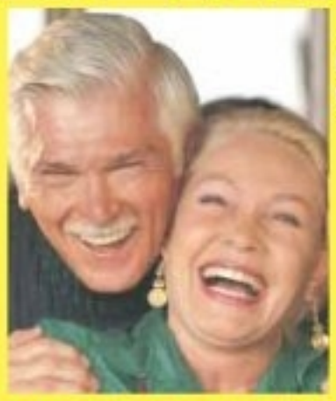
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Letters

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Libraries are for the people

RE: "SALVAGED BOOKS ARE UP FOR GRABS": Your coverage of the destruction of the People's Library at Occupy Wall Street overlooked key elements of the story. The library was a fully functional lending library for all ages comprising thousands of books donated by private citizens and corporations to be accessed by any member of the public. Far from being "safely stored," many of the books have been damaged, a large percentage of them are missing or presumed destroyed and the library's laptops are smashed. The destruction of a library is an attack on cultural memory. It is antithetical to our national identity to have a militarized police force tear down a public library in the dark of night.

CHRISTIAN ZABRISKIE, VIA E-MAIL

Bloomberg — whadda guy! After forcefully confiscating food, clothing, shelter and books, he kindly offers protesters the chance to get back their stuff — but only with of proof of ownership! What, these guys want receipts?

J. ANDREW SMITH, VIA E-MAIL

NBC nepotism stealing jobs

Former President Clinton's daughter Chelsea, like former President George Bush's daughter Jenna Bush, did not obtain her job as an NBC news correspondent by responding to help wanted ads in the New York Times. Surely there are better qualified legitimate reporters with real journalism credentials available to fill these positions. No outcry from the Wall Street protestors how the "1 percent" now are taking jobs away from the other "99 percent!"

LARRY PENNER, VIA E-MAIL

E-mail your letters: **letters@metro.us**

Keep them as brief as possible, preferably under 100 words. Metro reserves the right to edit all letters. Please include your name and contact information.

Strength in numbers!

RE: "MOVEMENT UNDER FIRE": Protesters in different states are outnumbered by the police 1:4. If they really want to be noticed, they should get together in one place — maybe Washington D.C.?

ANDY BELLIZZI, VIA E-MAIL

Bankers care about one thing

RE: "BOFA: DEBIT CARD FEE WAS BIG ERROR": Mr. Moynihan isn't so concerned with producing a return for shareholders; he is more concerned there won't be enough profit for his bonus. The reason there are "new regulations" is because of banking industry abuse of their customers.

HENRY MUENCH, VIA E-MAIL

Horoscope

♏ Scorpio **Oct. 24-Nov. 22.** Because you're in tune with the world, don't be surprised by the clout and influence you may find yourself having today. Press for that which could advance your ambitions.

♐ Sagittarius **Nov. 23-Dec. 21.** Some good news that is coming to you from a distant venue is trying to break through. Be sure to check all the sources you use for info.

♑ Capricorn **Dec. 22-Jan. 19.** Two separate friends of yours, unaware of each other, are both engaging in something on your behalf today in hopes of being able to acquire what you've been craving.

♒ Aquarius **Jan. 20-Feb. 19.** Anybody who meets you for the first time will be favorably impressed. There is a strong chance you will acquire a new lifelong pal.

♓ Pisces **Feb. 20-March 20.** A project you're able to complete today is likely to give you a sense of accomplishment. Someone whose attention you've been trying to attract may also notice it.

♈ Aries **March 21-April 19.** It will become quite clear to you today that you are much more popular with your contemporaries than you ever thought.

♉ Taurus **April 20-May 20.** Put on your thinking cap and check all the advertisements, because friends will be looking to you to come up with an event in which to participate.

♊ Gemini **May 21-June 20.** It might be left to you to avert an altercation between two friends who get into it. Because you like both equally, you'll know how to cool their hot heads.

♋ Cancer **June 21-July 22.** The little bits of money you've been squirreling away have finally added up to that whopping sum you need to get something you've been hankering. Go get it.

♌ Leo **July 23-Aug. 22.** Being a trifle restless and hard to get along with makes you a perfect candidate to spend some time with active friends who can put you in a happy mood. Don't hesitate to do so today.

♍ Virgo **Aug. 23-Sept. 22.** Because conditions in general tend to be far more favorable for you than usual, this is likely to be a perfect day to reap some nominal opportunities from some unexpected sources.

♎ Libra **Sept. 23-Oct. 23.** If you're someone who is presently unattached, this is a perfect day to get out and mingle. Members of the opposite gender will find you far more appealing than usual.

BERNICE BEDE OSOL

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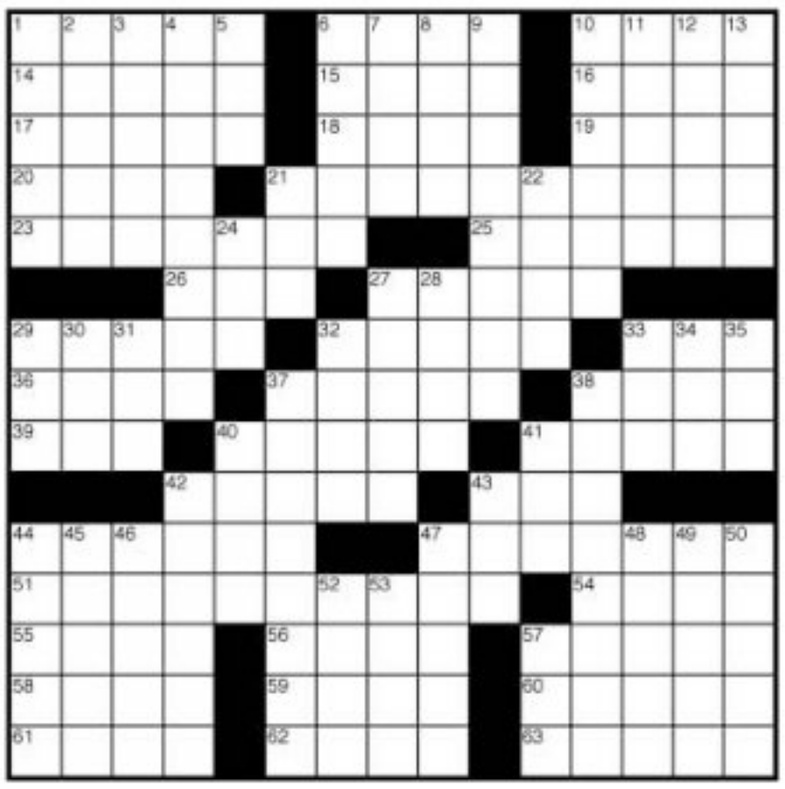
FOR MORE GAMES & PUZZLES



Across
1 Get a grip on
6 Dr.'s visit
10 Tattle
14 Helicopter blade
15 Mumble
16 Mr. Moto remark (2 wds.)
17 Suffuse
18 This place
19 Minus
20 Costly
21 Narrow escapes (2 wds.)
23 Tofu base
25 Very tired
26 Priest's robe
27 Makes hay
29 Shoppers' haunts
32 Kind of paint
33 Mongkut portrayer
36 And others (abbr.)
37 __ and dined
38 Monopoly, e.g.
39 Cash dispenser
40 Early evening
41 Hulking herbivore
42 Ancient letters
43 Devotee
44 Customer
47 Not quite laughed
51 CERN quest (2 wds.)
54 Find out
55 Experienced
56 Low voice
57 Sagging
58 Unskilled laborer
59 Attired
60 Look pleasant
61 Coin eater
62 "K-K-K- __" (1918 tune)
63 Rayed flower

Down
1 Football fields
2 Bard's teen
3 Trapped (2 wds.)
4 Hard candy
5 Opposite of post-
6 Scared-looking
7 Legal bargain
8 Happy rumble
9 Shook
10 Choir members
11 Tibet's capital
12 "Lou Grant" lead
13 Overbearing
21 Snatch
22 Holly, to a botanist
24 Chicago trains
27 Nuisances
28 Pharaoh's god
29 Drop __ __ line
30 Bar mem.
31 Take it on the __
32 Not on tape
33 Bark or yelp
34 Foul ball caller
35 Sign before Virgo
37 Returned (2 wds.)
38 Checked fabrics
40 Phoenix cagers
41 Crone
42 Substitute ruler
43 Bygone auto ornament
44 Wrangler's wear
45 Defame
46 Nanook's pad
47 Something sweet
48 Genuine
49 Birdie beater
50 Major appliance
52 Earthen jar
53 STAT
57 Youth org.

9		4	3	2		1		8
	2				9		6	
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	8		4				7	
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SUDOKU **LEVEL: EASY**

	9				6		5	7
2						4		9
4			9		2		3	
8		5		4				2
7				6		5		8
	8		6		7			4
6		3						1
9	1		8				6	

SUDOKU **LEVEL: HARD**

Solution to yesterday's crossword

C	H	I	P	I	N	■	T	E	M	■	L	A	T	E
D	E	C	A	D	E	■	A	G	E	■	E	R	A	S
S	P	I	R	E	A	■	H	A	M	■	A	B	U	T
■	■	K	A	L	E	I	D	O	S	C	O	P	E	■
S	K	O	A	L	■	Q	T	S	■	T	H	R	E	E
T	E	A	S	■	O	U	I	■	U	R	E	■	■	■
O	N	T	■	C	M	I	■	C	L	O	S	E	U	P
R	Y	E	■	H	E	N	■	L	T	D	■	A	N	A
Y	A	R	D	A	G	E	■	E	R	E	■	G	P	S
■	■	■	E	S	A	■	U	N	A	■	D	E	E	T
S	T	U	N	T	■	I	N	C	■	S	E	R	G	E
P	O	T	T	E	R	S	W	H	E	E	L	■	■	■
A	N	T	I	■	E	L	I	■	T	A	T	A	M	I
R	T	E	S	■	D	E	S	■	T	R	A	D	E	S
S	O	R	T	■	S	T	E	■	A	S	S	E	R	T

How to play Sudoku: Fill in the grid so that every row, every column and every 3x3 box contains the digits 1-9. There is no math involved. You solve the puzzle with reasoning and logic.

SUDOKU SOLUTIONS: **WWW.METRO.US/PUZZLES**

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music

Drive-By songwriting

Truckers divide authorship ‘This way, it’s like playing in three different bands,’ says Patterson Hood

DANNY CLINCH

▶ Left to right: Jay Gonzalez, John Neff, Patterson Hood, Mike Cooley, Shonna Tucker and Brad Morgan are Drive-By Truckers

When it comes to singers, Drive-By Truckers think the more the merrier — even if that gives the six-piece rootsy rockers something of a split personality.

“This way, it’s like playing in three different bands,” co-founder Patterson Hood jokes about working with co-singer songwriters Mike Cooley and Shonna Tucker. “I don’t like to get bored, it keeps it interesting.”

The Georgia-based band’s fiery new album “Go-Go Boots” has a dominant character though, admits Hood: “I had a lot of songs going into this one, it was definitely a record I felt very strongly about. But it balances out. Some albums, Mike has more songs. I’m always about collaboration. I love that aspect of the band.”

Partly by design, partly by accident, since forming in the fertile Athens scene in the ’90s, the Truckers have seen different players come and go. The current lineup has been in place since 2008, but Hood and Cooley go way back.

“We’ve been together 26 years, Mike and I. I’ve always loved his songs,” he says. “Shonna, I love her writing. It’s very different from mine and Cooley’s, but that’s the point. Maybe growing up around the whole session musician scene as I did made having lots of different players appeal to me.”

If you go

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LINDA LABAN
linda.laban@metro.us

Da Ya Think Hood is sexy?

Patterson Hood grew up with a musician/producer father, David Hood, founder of Muscle Shoals Sound Studio. The elder Hood played with big names from The Staples Singers to blue-eyed blues wailer turned pop singer Rod Stewart.

“My father’s had quite a career. He played with so many great artists back in the day,” Hood reveals.

And Rod? Was it during the singer’s disco period?

“He played on Rod Stewart’s ‘Tonight’s The Night.’ Right before his disco era,” Hood chuckles. “It was the album before ‘Da Ya Think I’m Sexy?’ He just missed that!”

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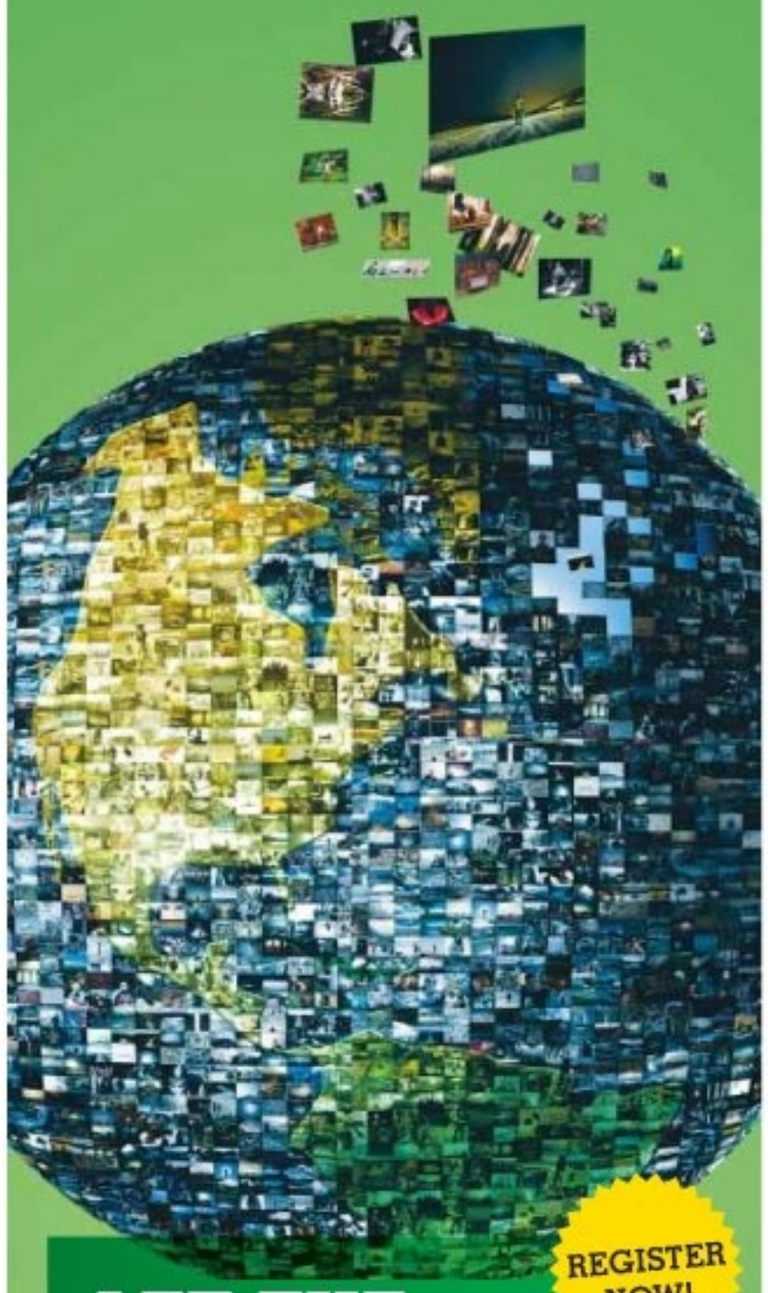

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Good question, Joe Sixpack

In his new book, the Philly beer writer asks: 'What the Hell am I Drinking?' It's a question that even a certified hopshead might find himself asking these days

Don Russell likes beer. It's as simple as that. As a founder of Philly Beer Week, he's had a part in putting Philly on the map as a craft brew destination, but we've also known him to enjoy a green Miller Light on St. Patrick's Day.

His latest book wants to make a similarly educated, open-minded beer-lover out of you before the hops snobs ruin your fun. Written under his pen name Joe Sixpack, "What the Hell am I Drinking?" is a collection of 50 essays designed to shed some light on the gigantic draft list now available at your corner bar.

We caught up with him because, well, we never know what we're drinking over here.

Do even you wonder what the hell you're drinking?

It's gotten to the point that yes, sometimes. I remember when you just asked for a beer and that was it. It was just beer. I think today, beer drinkers are confronted with thousands of different styles and might not be completely sure what they're ordering.

Is that a good thing?

I think it's a good thing — I'll never complain about more beer. I've thought for some time now that we're living in the best time ever to be drinking beer. Pretty much anyone can find a beer that they'll really enjoy the flavor of. But an educated consumer is a good consumer.

It's almost as intimidating as ordering wine.

I've described it as the wineification of beer. Beer, in many ways, has done things that are very wine-like. A good example is the price of beer. It's inching upward and upward all the time. And I think that's a bad thing — beer should be accessible, and it has to be careful about turning off consumers because it's too expensive or too special. What beer has always done well is that it is the everyman drink — you shouldn't have to worry about how to pronounce it.

Is part of this because we're in beer-crazed Philly?

Philly is leaps and bounds beyond almost every other city in the country, but it is happening everywhere. When we started Philly Beer Week in 2008, it was the first one in the country. Now there are over 75 of them. And it's not just big cities — I saw one the other day in Huntsville, Ala. I don't think there's much of a beer culture down there besides Bud, but they got it together.

Q&A

So, what the hell are you drinking for Thanksgiving?

You would think that there would be a lot of fall beers out right now, but unfortunately most of the pumpkin beers are off the shelves. Right now, you're apt to find the first of the Christmas beers coming in — some of the outstanding beers from Belgium and some of the American craft beers.

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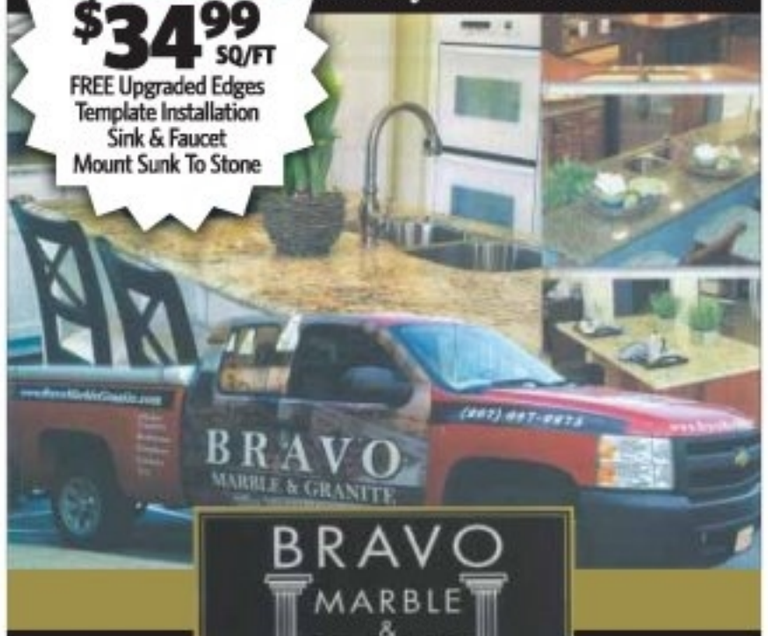

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BBB

▶ Don Russell — aka Joe Sixpack — isn't complaining about the wealth of beer in Philly.

What's on Joe Sixpack's Christmas list?

Here are his three picks for seasonal brews this year:

1. Anchor's 2011 Christmas Ale
2. Troeg's Mad Elf Ale
3. Lion Brewery's Stegmaier Winter Warmer

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www.utphilly.com

Hot Rod Circuit
with Cartel and Smoke Signals
Friday, 7 p.m.
$15, The TLA
www.livenation.com

Los Campesinos!
with Reading Rainbow
Friday, 8:30 p.m.
$15-$18, Union Transfer
www.utphilly.com

Trans-Siberian Orchestra
Saturday, 3 and 8 p.m.
$29-$69, The Wells Fargo Center
www.livenation.com

Peter Murphy
with She Wants Revenge
Saturday, 8 p.m.
$24-$25, The Trocadero
www.thetroc.com

Mastodon
Sunday, 8 p.m.
SOLDOUT, The Trocadero
www.thetroc.com

BellX1
with Favourite Sons
Sunday, 9:30 p.m.
$18-$20, Johnny Brenda's
www.johnnybrendas.com

Chris Robinson Brotherhood
Sunday, 8:30 p.m.
$20, Union Transfer
www.utphilly.com

The Airborne Toxic Event
Sunday, 8 p.m.
$25, The Electric Factory
www.ticketmaster.com

Hull
with Dirt Worshippers
Sunday, 9 p.m.
$5, Johnny Brenda's
www.johnnybrendas.com

AA Bondy
with Gold Leaves
Monday, 8 p.m.
$13-$14, First Unitarian Church
www.r5productions.com

Badfish
with Black Landlord and Steve Oakley Band
Wednesday, 8:30 p.m.
$18, The Electric Factory
www.ticketmaster.com

AWOLNATION
with MC Rut and Twin Atlantic
Wednesday, 8 p.m.
$15, Union Transfer
www.utphilly.com

ARTS

'Billy Elliot the Musical'
Through Nov. 27
The Academy of Music
www.kimmelcenter.org
Based on the much-loved film, this tale of an unlikely ballet dancer scooped up 10 Tony Awards — including Best Musical — before hitting Philly.

First Person Festival
Through Nov. 20
www.firstpersonarts.org
This annual celebration of memoir and documentary art wraps up Sunday, but there's still plenty to see at venues across Old City.

FOOD & DRINK

Beaujolais Nouveau in Midtown
Tonight, 5-8
www.midtownvillage.org
This is another one of those French holidays we need to officially co-opt. Observed on the third Thursday of every November, it celebrates the release of Beaujolais Nouveau, a young French red wine that ferments for just a few fall weeks. This evening, the restaurants and merchants of Midtown Village are going all out with tastings and special menus.

Marc Vetri book debut
Tuesday, 7:30 p.m.
Central Library
www.freelibrary.org
Marc Vetri's new cookbook, "Rustic Italian Food," is all about getting back in the kitchen with your family and making a proper meal. (Not that there's any chance your own family is serving up food this good next Thursday.)

Headhouse Farmer's Market
Wednesday, 10 a.m.-4 p.m., Second and Lombard streets
foodtrustmarkets.org
Looking for the most lovely Brussels sprouts? Or need some picture-perfect pies to pass off as your own? The Headhouse Market is making a special holiday appearance for all of your Thanksgiving needs.

NIGHTLIFE

U.S. Mr. Gay Competition
Friday and Saturday
Voyeur
www.nightlifegay.com
Philly is hosting this national competition, complete with celebrity judges and local contestants.

THE RUNDOWN

Metro's guide to what's happening in Philly this week

GETTY IMAGES

Lex Ishimoto stars as Billy in "Billy Elliot the Musical."

Phantogram play Union Transfer tonight.

Shopping

Art Star Holiday Craft Bazaar

Saturday and Sunday, 11 a.m.-6 p.m.
23rd Street Armory
www.artstarcraftbazaar.com
Art Star's Craft Bazaar has long been our favorite place to stock up on gifts — even if it is in May. But this year, they're having a special encore round a little closer to the holidays with more than 50 local and national artists selling homewares, paper goods, jewelry, ceramics, prints, toys and other trinkets that will be hard to give away.

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CASINO LISTINGS

Atlantic City

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Jay-Z and Kanye West Watch The Throne tour
Saturday, 7:30 p.m.
Atlantic City Boardwalk Hall
$60-$250, 609-348-7000
www.boardwalkhall.com

Social Distortion
Saturday, 7 p.m.
House of Blues in Showboat
$25, 609-343-5700
www.showboatac.com

GETTY IMAGES

▶ Jay-Z and Kanye West are in A.C. this weekend.

Tower of Power
Saturday, 9 p.m.
Harrah's Resort Atlantic City
$35-$45, 609-441-5786
www.harrahsresort.com

Comedy

Craig Robinson
Friday, 9 p.m.
Borgata Hotel Casino & Spa
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www.theborgata.com

Kathy Griffin
Saturday, 8 p.m.
Borgata Hotel Casino & Spa
$55-$75, 609-317-1000
www.theborgata.com

Sports

Lou Neglia's Ring of Combat XXXVIII Boxing
Friday, 8:30 p.m.
Tropicana Casino And Resort
$40-$150, 609-340-4020
www.tropicana.net

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For more information, visit the Atlantic City Convention & Visitors Authority at **www.atlanticcitynj.com** and click on Calendar for event details.

Eagles playing musical chairs at quarterback

Vick misses practice, broken ribs still sore • Young, Kafka split reps with first-teamers • Reid won't name starter for Sunday night's game • Giants preparing for all scenarios

Mike Vick sat on the sideline yesterday with a knit cap on.

The scene seems likely to repeat itself Sunday night, when the Eagles play the Giants. Vick didn't practice yesterday, but head coach Andy Reid hasn't officially ruled the quarterback out.

"We'll just see how the week goes," Reid said. "If Michael has an opportunity to play then Michael will play, and then we go from there."

Reid added that Vick's broken ribs were still sore and preached patience as his body continues to heal.

"We're not going to put him in any bit of risk out there, that's not what we do," Reid said.

With Vick out, Vince Young and Mike Kafka split the first-team reps. Young has been listed as the backup quarterback all season, but hasn't looked sharp when asked to fill-in. Still, he has the experience having gone 30-17 in his NFL career as a starter.

GETTY IMAGES

▶ Young is likely to be the Eagles' starting quarterback Sunday night.

"I'm getting better each week, every day, really," Young said. "I always stay ready and prepare like I'm going to be the starter, even when Vick is healthy."

If Reid opts for Kafka, he'll be ready as well.

"The approach you take for every practice, every game, every opportunity you have to run the offense is showcasing yourself and your abilities," Kafka said.

Meanwhile, Giants head coach Tom Coughlin isn't quite convinced that No. 7 won't be out there leading the Eagles out of the tunnel at the new Meadowlands.

"I am not going to believe that Michael Vick won't play until I see him not jog out there," Coughlin said.

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Hall gets promoted to roster

Welcome, Chad Hall.

The Eagles promoted the 5-foot-8 powder keg to the team's 53-man roster yesterday and released safety Jarrad Page.

Hall, who started the season on the practice squad, appeared in eight games last season and caught 11 balls for 115 yards, including a touchdown. The versatile Hall was used in a variety of gadget plays, especially in goal-line packages. He also has experience on kickoff and punt returns.

"Whatever they ask me I was ready last year and I'm even more ready this year," Hall said yesterday.

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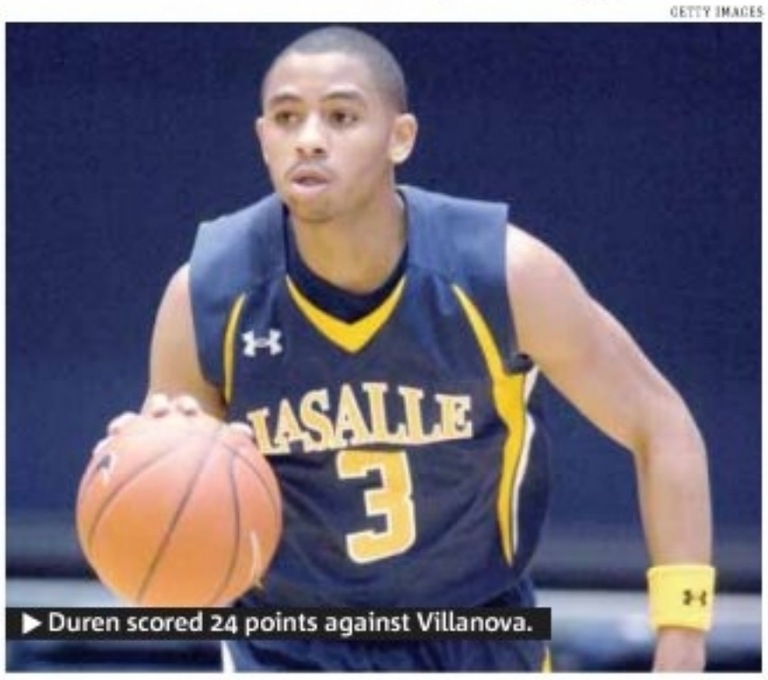
Explorers feeling negative vibes after painful loss

La Salle hurting after OT loss to Villanova ◗ Coach calls it 'most difficult' of his tenure ◗ Up next, JMU

GETTY IMAGES



▶ Duren scored 24 points against Villanova.

La Salle had a multitude of chances to upend Big 5 rival Villanova for the first time in 10 years.

The Explorers led by five with 1:24 left in regulation but let it slip away, only to lose 76-69 in overtime Tuesday night.

Unlike the previous nine losses to the Wildcats, this one hurt even more.

"It's incredibly painful not to win this game," coach John Giannini said.

How painful?

"This is as difficult a loss as I've had since becoming a head coach in 1989," the La Salle coach said.

The Explorers left the Pavilion with a 1-1 record. They also left with the realization that they hadn't defeated 'Nova since 2001.

But there are reasons to be optimistic.

Tyreek Duren scored 24 points and Sam Mills had 19 points, including four 3-pointers.

And the Explorers nearly won without guard Ramon Galloway, who suffered a concussion in the season-opening victory over Lafayette.

There are no moral victories at 20th and Olney — not when they could have won and probably should have won.

"I think we're going to have a really good season," Giannini said. "I think our guys will respond. But right now, I don't think any one of us feels any positivity."

Saturday
James Madison (1-0) at La Salle (1-1), 3 p.m.

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Giants receiver in vicinity of club shooting

GETTY IMAGES

▶ Cruz

The Giants must have had a horrific flashback early Tuesday morning, when gunshots rang out in a New York nightclub.

Receiver Victor Cruz was celebrating his birthday, along with teammates Hakeem Nicks, Aaron Ross, Antrel Rolle and Chris Canty, when a shooting occurred at the trendy Juliet Supper Club.

While the incident reportedly didn't include anyone associated with Cruz's party, a life was lost and two more people are in stable condition.

Cruz, who has a daughter on the way, said he'll stick to "going to barbecues and family get-togethers from now on" and that his clubbing days are over.

"I'm still kind of naive to it sometimes. I go out and I think I'm this under-the-radar kind of guy and nobody knows me and things like that," Cruz said. "But, because you play for the Giants, and because you're a receiver, [and] been doing fairly well, my name will be brought up."

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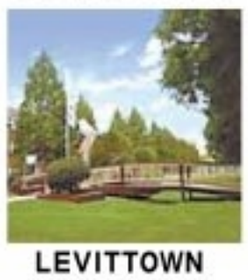
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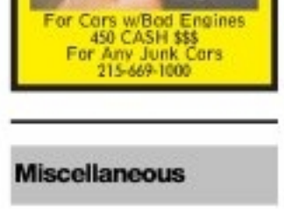

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